

Town of Mansfield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 18 August 2010
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building
MINUTES

Members present: Robert Dahn, Peter Drzewiecki (from 8:00p), Neil Facchinetti (Alt.), Scott Lehmann. *Members absent:* Joan Buck (Alt.), Quentin Kessel, John Silander, Joan Stevenson, Frank Trainor. *Others present:* Grant Meitzler (Wetlands Agent).

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:32p by Acting Chair Robert Dahn.
2. The 16 August version of the draft **minutes of the 21 July meeting** was approved as written.
3. **Agronomy farm.** Gregory Wiedemann, Dean of UConn's CANR, has responded to questions from the Storrs Heights Neighborhood Association regarding the impact of Agronomy Farm turf research on groundwater. The Neighborhood Association will attempt to resolve any remaining questions with the Dean in advance of the 14 September Town-Gown Committee meeting.
4. **Ponde Place saga.** According to Meitzler, test wells have yielded only about 1/3 of the water the would-be developers of Ponde Place hoped for, enough to supply about 280 units. However, DPH regulations would allow no more than about 170 units -- the number that could be supplied, were the best well to be taken off-line for repair. Accordingly, the developers are attempting to get UConn to agree to provide water in such an emergency. Stay tuned.
5. **IWA referral W1461 (Elshakhs, Bundy La.)** An above-ground pool is proposed within 150 ft of wetlands (Roberts Brook and land between it and the pool that is low and wet, according to Meitzler). It appears that moving the pool about 30 ft toward Bundy Lane would involve less grading and reduce potential impact on wetlands during and after installation. The Commission unanimously agreed (motion: Dahn, Lehmann) to suggest this.
6. **UConn reclaimed water facility.** The University proposes to upgrade treatment at its Water Pollution Control Facility so that wastewater can be substituted for potable water in the Central Utility Plant and for irrigation. While wastewater probably cannot completely replace potable water in these uses, this project should reduce demand for water from the Willimantic and Fenton River well-fields. The Commission commends the University for this initiative to increase the efficiency of its use of water.
7. **Storrs Rd. Mobil station.** DEP has authorized an experimental attempt to clean up pollution at the old Mobil station on Rte. 195 near Willimantic by injecting neutralizing chemicals into the groundwater. If this *in situ* approach doesn't work, Exxon will have to put in a filtration system similar to the one now in operation at the 4-Corners CVS.
8. **Adjourned** at 8:24p. Next meeting: 7:30p, Wednesday, 15 September 2010

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 19 August 2010; approved 15 September 2010.